

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for inducing pain relief in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal in need of pain relief a pain-relieving amount of a composition comprising an imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine is N,N,6-trimethyl-2-p-tolyl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-acetamide.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine is zolpidem tartrate.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine composition is administered orally.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine is administered topically.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said pain is chronic pain.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said pain is caused by cancer.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said cancer is a metastatic cancer.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises a stimulant.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said stimulant is a member selected from the group consisting of ritalin and provigil.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein said mammal is a human patient.